

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is entered into by and between Chickaloon Village Traditional Council (CVTC) and the Anchorage Museum for the purpose of achieving objectives of *Decolonizing Through Virtual Repatriation: A New Vision of Collections Access* (the "Project").

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Anchorage Museum Deputy Director of Conservation & Collections (Project Manager)
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WHEREAS, CVTC is an Indigenous Ahtna Dene Government with full power and authority to act for Chickaloon Native Village (*Nay'dini'aa Na' Kayax*) and as such is qualified and exercises powers of self-government by reason of its original Tribal sovereignty as passed down from its ancestors since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, CVTC did not cede, terminate, extinguish, or relinquish their original, possessory and Indigenous rights; and

WHEREAS, CVTC has a strategic focus area called Connections: to renew family connections, increase Ahtna cultural knowledge through cultural exhibits, and develop a more connected community; and

WHEREAS, CVTC has a Tribal material collections and a digital collections and seeks to expand these collections for Ahtna cultural preservation and perpetuation through data sharing and repatriation of cultural materials; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Museum seeks to decolonize and Indigenize the collections of the museum through building relationships with source communities and underserved community members, to support the relationship between the collections and the communities and People(s) from which the collections originate; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Museum strives to relinquish control and power over the Indigenous collections and reduce the gate-keeper aspect of the institution; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Museum seeks to improve access and support Indigenous ways of knowing; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Museum and CVTC developed a multi-year project proposal to share historical photographs and photograph metadata for mutual benefits;

NOW, THEREFORE, CVTC and the Anchorage Museum agree to enter into this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the following responsibilities and arrangements for project completion through mutual partnership.

1. MISSION

The project mission is to work collaboratively to decolonize museum collections management practices and return access of collections to source communities from which collections originate.

2. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Anchorage Museum will virtually repatriate images (photographs) and cultural materials to CVTC. CVTC will share metadata about the cultural images and materials for the Anchorage Museum database.

The project is intended to last approximately two years, from December 2021 to November 2023. This MOA provides the structure for any and all future agreements related to the project.

3. OBJECTIVES

CVTC and the Anchorage Museum will work together to:

- 1) Expand the CVTC digital collections and cultural materials with historic photographs currently held by the Anchorage Museum, and
- 2) Enhance and, when necessary, correct the metadata and descriptions of the cultural materials held by the Anchorage Museum, through Tribal Culture Bearer input.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES

CVTC and the Anchorage Museum acknowledge that no contractual relationship is created by this MOA and agree to work together in the true spirit of partnership: to ensure that there is united, visible, and responsive leadership for the Project; and to demonstrate financial, administrative, and managerial commitment to the Project.

The following are the individual responsibilities and services that CVTC and the Anchorage Museum will provide.

CVTC shall:

1. Provide a research team comprised of CVTC staff members and Culture Bearers including Elders to participate actively in this two-year project.
2. Create a list of cultural materials including photographs to be assessed within the Anchorage Museum collections.
3. Assess and review the cultural materials within the Anchorage Museum collections to compile and provide cultural context and historical knowledge so that descriptive metadata can be created or corrected.
4. Assign cultural protocols and traditional knowledge labels and create Mukurtu CMS modified Dublin Core metadata for all selected cultural materials, which are internal, CVTC processes.
5. Upload selected images from the Anchorage Museum collections, and associated metadata, to CVTC's Mukurtu database (Nay'dini'aa Na' Kayax Ugheldze Le Cilaes – CVTC Information We Share).
6. Share appropriate metadata with the Anchorage Museum with the understanding that it may be shared through the Anchorage Museum's online platform.
7. Provide public access to CVTC's digital Tribal collections through the Mukurtu database (Nay'dini'aa Na' Kayax Ugheldze Le Cilaes– CVTC Information We Share).
8. Co-host, with the Anchorage Museum, a minimum of eight community gatherings, to review cultural items and collect cultural context and historical knowledge in Ahtna Dene communities. Co-host, at least once, a modified community gathering table or activity at the Alaska Federation of Natives annual conference.
9. Work with the Anchorage Museum to clarify how, and by whom, sensitive materials are accessed.
10. Summarize project outcomes for reports when requested by the Anchorage Museum.
11. Provide invoices to Anchorage Museum to support the dedicated staff time of the CVTC Museum Specialist and the CVTC Archives Technician on the project; and for

travel expenses for CVTC staff members from the CVTC Moose Creek Campus Offices to the Anchorage Museum for research visits and to the community gatherings.

The Anchorage Museum shall:

1. Assist the CVTC research team in conducting research in the Anchorage Museum collections by providing access, including finding aids, research space, and viewing equipment.
2. Provide equipment and resources to support CVTC in the assessment and review of the cultural materials.
3. Digitize any selected cultural materials, as requested by CVTC, that are not already digitized.
4. Provide technical support to CVTC during the migration process of the museum's digital surrogates and data to CVTC's network.
5. Upload shared metadata from CVTC into the Anchorage Museum's database.
6. Share project findings through the museum's online platform.
7. Co-host, with CVTC, a minimum of eight community gatherings, to review cultural items and collect cultural context and historical knowledge in Ahtna Dene communities. Co-host, at least once, a modified community gathering table or activity at the Alaska Federation of Natives annual conference.
8. Work with CVTC to clarify how, and by whom, sensitive materials are accessed.
9. Provide funding to CVTC for the dedicated staff time of the CVTC Museum Specialist and the CVTC Archives Technician on the project; and funding for travel for CVTC staff members from the CVTC Moose Creek Campus Offices to the Anchorage Museum for research visits and community gatherings.
10. Provide daily stipends to Culture Bearers including Elders who participate to provide cultural context and historical knowledge about selected cultural materials in the Anchorage Museum collections.

5. TERMS OF UNDERSTANDING

The term of this MOA shall be for a period of 24 months from the effective date and extended upon written mutual agreement of both CVTC and the Anchorage Museum.

6. CONFIDENTIALITY

CVTC and the Anchorage Museum will treat the cultural information, draft metadata, and cultural materials reviewed through this project as confidential, until the cultural materials and metadata (including cultural information) have been approved by one or more Tribal

Culture Bearers for public access through the Anchorage Museum digital archives and CVTC's digital Tribal collections Nay'dini'aa Na' Kayax Ugheldze Le Cilaes— CVTC Information We Share.

7. LEGAL COMPLIANCE

CVTC and the Anchorage Museum acknowledge and understand that they must be able to fulfill their responsibilities under this MOA in accordance with the provisions of the law and regulations that govern their activities. Nothing in the MOA is intended to negate or otherwise render ineffective any such provisions or operating procedures. CVTC and the Anchorage Museum assume full responsibility for their performance under the terms of this MOA. If at any time either CVTC or the Anchorage Museum is unable to perform their duties or responsibilities under this MOA they shall immediately provide written notice to the other to establish a date for resolution of the matter.

8. COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

Where it does not breach any confidentiality protocols, a spirit of open and transparent communication should be adhered to. Coordinated communications should be made with external organizations to elicit their support and further the aims of the Project. Marketing of the mission and any media or other public relations contact should always be consistent with the aims of the Project and only undertaken with the express agreement between CVTC and the Anchorage Museum.

9. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

No rights or limitation of rights shall arise or be assumed between CVTC and the Anchorage Museum as a result of the terms of this MOA.

10. NOTICE

Any notice or communication required or permitted under this MOA shall be sufficiently given if delivered in person, by certified mail (return receipt requested), or by email (with email receipt evidence), to the addresses set forth in the opening paragraphs or to such address as a party may have furnished to the other in writing.

11. AUTHORIZATION AND EXECUTION

It is mutually agreed upon and understood by this MOA that CVTC and the Anchorage Museum will work together collaboratively for the fulfillment of the Project.

The signing of this MOA constitutes a formal undertaking, and as such, intends that the Parties shall strive to reach, to the best of their abilities, the goals and objectives stated in this MOA.

This Agreement shall be signed by authorized representatives of CVTC and the Anchorage Museum and shall be effective as of the date of the second signature.

~~Chief Gary Harrison~~

Chief Gary Harrison (Jan 19, 2022 22:07 AKST)

Chickaloon Village Traditional Council Official's Signature and Date
Chief Gary Harrison, CVTC Chairman

Julie Decker

Anchorage Museum Official's Signature and Date
Julie Decker, Anchorage Museum Director and CEO









CVTC_Anchorage Museum MOA 2022

Final Audit Report

2022-01-20

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